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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 767
By Carter

A RESOLUTION to designate April 30, 2000 as "Casey Jones Day" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should pause in their deliberations to specially recognize those men and women who have helped make this state great; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee has a grand and noble history filled with individuals of strong character and unyielding perseverance; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is locomotive engineer John Luther "Casey" Jones, who was a person of great courage, honor, dedication, and heroic sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, Engineer Jones willingly gave his life in the line of duty to preserve the lives of others; he is known around the world in story and song, and is heralded as one of America's greatest folk heroes; and

WHEREAS, on April 30, 1900 at Vaughan, Mississippi, the life of Casey Jones, America's railroad legend who called Tennessee home, ended in a grinding crash on the Illinois Central Railroad tracks; and

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WHEREAS, his skill and selfless concern for the lives of his passengers and crew were unquestioned and are worthy of honor and our awed remembrance, as his legend continues in stories and song; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the 100th anniversary of that fateful night, and it is important that this legislative body should honor the memory of this famous Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby designate April 30, 2000 as "Casey Jones Day" in Tennessee in honor of the life of John Luther "Casey" Jones, reflecting proudly upon his heroic sacrifice in attempting to save the lives of his passengers and crew.